

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LONDON 14175 151247Z

44-L

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 PM-04

NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 INR-07 CIAE-00 /046 W

----- 105875

O 151113Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4716

SECDEF IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 14175

DEFENSE FOR DASD HARRY BERGOLD, ISA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, UK (SCHLESINGER, JAMES R)

SUBJ: VISIT OF SECRETARY SCHLESINGER TO UK -- PRIME

MINISTER'S INVITATION

REF: (A) LONDON 14126; (B) BERGOLD-MACDONALD TELECON

OF SEPTEMBER 13

1. WE INFORMED JOHN MAYNE (MASON'S PARLIAMENTARY PRIVATE SECRETARY) OF THE HONOR AND IMPORTANCE SECDEF ATTACHED TO THE PM'S INVITATION AND CONVEYED HIS HOPE THAT EVENTS WOULD ALLOW THEM TO HAVE A LENGTHIER AND MORE INTIMATE MEETING THAN THE HALF-HOUR CURRENTLY SCHEDULED ON 24 SEPTEMBER. MAYNE SAID HE FULLY UNDERSTOOD RESCHEDULING AND PROMISED TO EXPLORE ASAP WITH PM'S OFFICE IF PM HAD SUFFICIENT FLEXIBILITY TO ACCOMMODATE A LENGTHIER MEETING WITHIN THE 26 SEPTEMBER DEPARTURE DATE.

2. RE PARA 4 REFTTEL A, IT BECAME CLEARER IN CONVERSATION WITH MAYNE THAT AT LEAST ONE THING ON THE PM'S MIND IS HOW TO FIGHT EFFECTIVELY THE DOZEN OR MORE RESOLUTIONS HE AND MASON WILL FACE AT THE BLACKPOOL LABOR PARTY CONFERENCE AIMED AT GETTING FURTHER DEFENSE CUTS. THERE IS NO QUESTION THAT DEFENSE WILL BE A PRIMARY TARGET AND THAT THE LEFT WING (TRIBUNE GROUP ET AL) OF THE PARTY INTENDS TO MAKE THE ISSUE OF DEFENSE SPENDING ONE OF THE FOCI

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LONDON 14175 151247Z

AROUND WHICH IT CAN ASSAULT THE MODERATES AND RIGHT WING

ON THE MATTER OF OVERALL PARTY LEADERSHIP AND PRIORITIES. IT MAY BE THAT THE PM FEELS IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO BE SEEN TO HAVE TALKS WITH SECDEF ALMOST ON THE EVE OF THE OPENING OF THE LABOR PARTY CONFERENCE. (A FEW WEEKS AGO MOD PUBLISHED A PAMPHLET -- "OUR CONTRIBUTION TO THE PRICE OF PEACE" -- WHICH GIVEN WIDE CIRCULATION TO MPS, TRADE UNIONS, CBI, LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES, CONSTITUENCY LABOR PARTIES, ETC. SUGGESTING THAT BRITAIN HAD ALREADY THROUGH THE RECENT DEFENSE REVIEW MADE THE LARGEST DEFENSE CUTS IT COULD SAFELY AFFORD. THE LEFT WING SEES THE PAMPHLET AS AN ATTEMPT DIRECTLY TO UNDERMINE AND SABOTAGE ITS CAMPAIGN FOR SIGNIFICANT ADDITIONAL CUTS IN DEFENSE SPENDING.)

3. REF PARA 1 ABOVE, MAYNE CALLED TO SAY THAT THE PM'S OFFICE HAS BEEN CONSULTED AND THEY REPORT THAT SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 27 REPEAT 27 "IS THE ONLY POSSIBLE DAY." THE PM WOULD LIKE SECDEF'S ACCEPTANCE "IF AT ALL POSSIBLE" AND WILL BE DISAPPOINTED IF NOT POSSIBLE UNDERSTANDING THE SCHEDULING DIFFICULTIES.

RICHARDSON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LONDON14175
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750319-0004
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750950/aaaabrsv.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 LONDON 14126
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 JUN 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <05 NOV 2003 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT OF SECRETARY SCHLESINGER TO UK -- PRIME MINISTER'S INVITATION
TAGS: OVIP, UK, (SCHLESINGER, JAMES R)
To: STATE DOD
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006